

Public Health Nursing Division

Board of Health Report for March 1, 2023 Meeting

Report submitted on February 21, 2023 by Public Health Nurse Manager, Nicole Chauncey, BSN, RN

A. Communicable diseases reported

The following table displays the number of cases of each communicable disease reported to the Lowell Health Department via the Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiologic Network (MAVEN).

Note: All counts in this table are classified as **confirmed** events unless otherwise specified. MDPH Case Classification Manual can be accessed [here](#).

Disease	Jan. 2023	Feb. 2023 MTD†	2023 YTD†
Amebiasis	0	0	0
Anthrax	0	0	0
Arbovirus (other)	0	0	0
Avian Influenza	0	0	0
Babesiosis	0	0	0
Borrelia miyamotoi infection	0	0	0
Botulism	0	0	0
Calicivirus/Norovirus	0	0	0
Campylobacteriosis	0	0	0
Clostridium perfringens	0	0	0
Cryptococcus neoformans	0	0	0
Cryptosporidiosis	1 probable	0	1 probable
Cyclosporiasis	0	0	0
Dengue Fever	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Eastern equine infection	0	0	0
Ehrlichiosis	0	0	0
Encephalitis	0	0	0
Enterovirus	0	0	0
Giardiasis	0	0	0
Glanders	0	0	0
Group A Streptococcus	2	1	3
Group B Streptococcus	43 revoked	1 confirmed 22 revoked	1 confirmed 65 revoked
Haemophilus Influenzae	1 revoked	0	1 revoked
Hansen's Disease (Leprosy)	0	0	0
Hantavirus infection	0	0	0
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome	0	0	0
Hepatitis A	0	0	0
Hepatitis B	1 contact 2 probable 1 suspect	3 probable 1 suspect	1 contact 5 probable 2 suspect
Hepatitis C	3 confirmed 5 probable 3 revoked	5 confirmed 4 probable 1 revoked	8 confirmed 9 probable 4 revoked
Hepatitis D	0	0	0
Hepatitis E	0	0	0
Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis	0	0	0
Influenza	122 confirmed 1 suspect	15 confirmed	137 confirmed 1 suspect
Invasive bacterial infection (other)	0	0	0

Legionellosis	0	0	0
Leptospirosis	0	0	0
Listeriosis	0	0	0
Lyme Disease	2 suspect	0	2 suspect
Lymphocytic choriomeningitis	0	0	0
Malaria	1	0	1
Measles	0	0	0
Melioidosis	0	0	0
Meningitis – Unknown Type	0	0	0
Meningococcal Disease	0	0	0
Monkeypox	0	0	0
Mumps	0	0	0
Novel coronavirus (SARS, MERS, etc.)	705 confirmed 183 probable 8 revoked	245 confirmed 26 probable 2 suspect	750 confirmed 209 probable 8 revoked 2 suspect
Pertussis (and other Bordetella species)	0	0	0
Plague	0	0	0
Polio	0	0	0
Powassan virus infection	0	0	0
Psittacosis	0	0	0
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	0	0	0
Rubella	0	0	0
Salmonellosis	0	0	0
Shiga toxin producing organism	0	0	0
Shigellosis	0	0	0
Staphylococcal Enterotoxin	0	0	0
Streptococcus pneumoniae	0	0	0
Tetanus	0	0	0
Toxic shock syndrome	0	0	0
Toxoplasmosis	0	0	0
Varicella	1 probable 1 suspect	0	1 probable 1 suspect
Vibrio sp.	0	0	0
Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers	3 contact	0	3 contact
Viral Meningitis (aseptic)	1 suspect	0	1 suspect
West Nile Virus Infection	0	0	0
Yellow fever	0	0	0
Yersiniosis	0	0	0
Zika Virus Infection	0	0	0

† up to date as of 2/21/23

*denotes case is connected to a foodborne illness investigation

B. Tuberculosis (TB) cases reported

The following table is a summary of the number of cases of active TB and TB infection reported to the Lowell Health Department via the Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiologic Network (MAVEN).

Disease	Jan. 2023	Feb. 2023 MTD†	2023 YTD†
TB disease	3	4	7
TB infection	34	37	71

† up to date as of 2/21/23

As of 2/21/23, the PHN team is actively case managing 6 suspect/confirmed cases of active TB, up from 2 last month.

C. Refugee arrivals reported

The following table is a summary of the number of refugees and refugee families reported to the Lowell Health Department via the Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiologic Network (MAVEN).

	Jan. 2023	Feb. 2023 MTD†	2023 YTD†
Total families	3	0	3
Total persons	5	0	5

† up to date as of 2/21/23

D. Immunizations given

The following table is a summary of the number of vaccine doses given by the Lowell Health Department as reported to the Massachusetts Immunization Information System (MIIS).

Vaccine type	Jan. 2023	Feb. 2023 MTD†	2023 YTD†
COVID-19	6	0	6
Influenza	13	0	13

† up to date as of 2/21/23

E. Public Health Nursing Division Activities, January - February

- The PHN team continues to offer flu shots and COVID boosters at the weekly Health Department clinic on Tuesdays, and in-home upon request, although interest has decreased since the holidays. No in-home vaccinations were given since the last BOH report.
- Attended meetings with community partners, including participating in GLHA's CHIP planning process by attending the GLHA Task Force on Mental Health; and attending GLHA's monthly Vaccine Equity Task Force meeting, the monthly MA DPH Vaccine Equity Initiative check-in, and the bi-weekly webinars offered by MAVEN and MDPH
- Attended an educational webinar by National Tuberculosis Controllers Association call about improving health equity and advocacy in the care of patients with TB

- Gave 11 doses of flu vaccine at a PCEA Neema Church community event on 1/29/23
- Provided nursing coverage at the Warming Center during the winter weather advisory the weekend of Friday, 2/3/23
- Supported the Epidemiologist and Community Health Coordinator in an educational presentation at the YWCA on 2/6/23
- Attended monthly Massachusetts Association of Public Health Nurses meeting
- Participated in planning for the upcoming Health Department medication and sharps disposal day
- Planned an event for Heart Health Month to take place at the Senior Center on Thursday, 2/23/23.
- The PHN manager attended the monthly health department accreditation (PHAB) meeting and will serve as the QI Coordinator for the accreditation process